

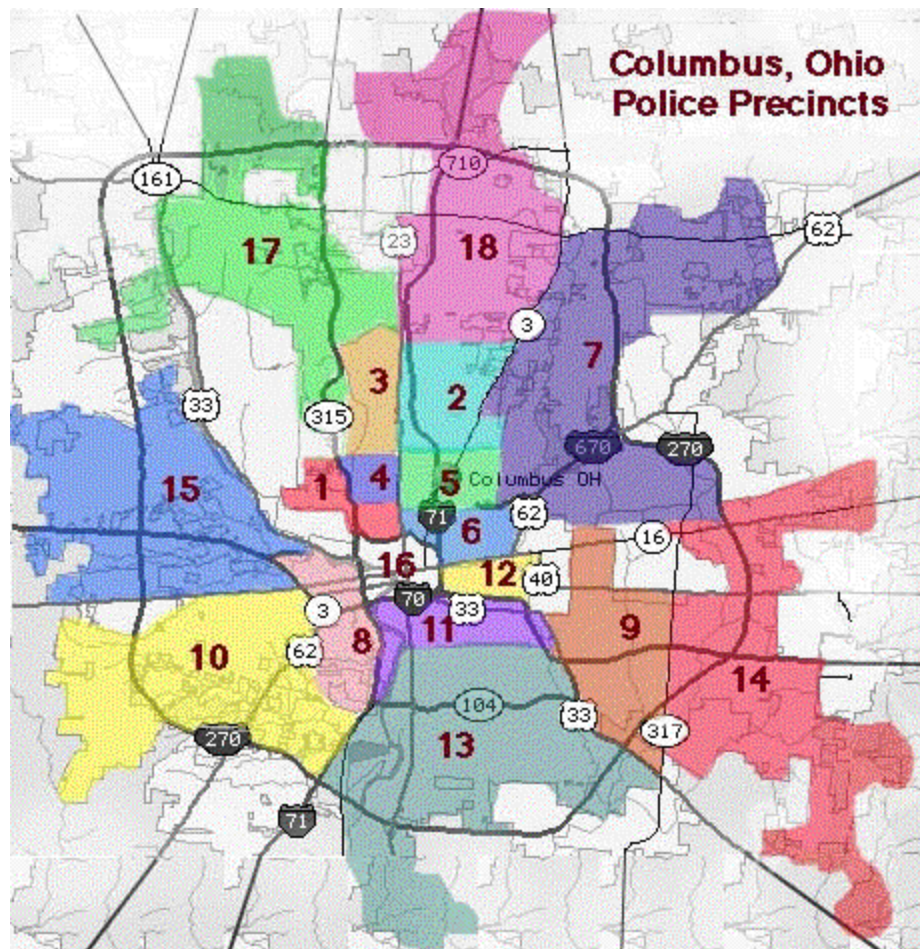
# Office of National Drug Control Policy

## Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

### Columbus, Ohio

#### Profile of Drug Indicators

May 2000



ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse staff compiled this profile by using the most recent data available from open sources. The data presented are as accurate as the sources from which they were drawn. The information contained in this profile should not be used to rank or compare States or jurisdictions, due to differences in data collection and reporting methods.

## **Columbus, Ohio**

The following profile contains information on demographics, political figures, programs, crime, drug use, drug trafficking, and enforcement statistics.

### **Demographics<sup>1</sup>**

- Population: 665,458 (1998 Estimate); 632,910 (1990 Census)
- Race (1998): 71.5% white; 24.7% African American; 3.1 % Asian/Pacific Islander; 0.2% Native American; 0.5% other.
- County: Franklin

### **Politics<sup>2</sup>**

- Mayor: Michael Coleman
- City Council: Matthew D Habash (President); Richard W. Sensenbrenner (President Pro-Tem); Jennette B. Bradley; Michael C. Mentel; Maryellen O'Shaughnessy, Frederick L Ransier III, Carleta B. Tavares.
- Police Chief: James G. Jackson

### **Programs/Initiatives**

- FY 1999 Drug-Free Communities Support Program Grantees awarded by ONDCP and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)<sup>3</sup>:
  - \$93,250 to the Franklin County Educational Council Foundation
- Executive Office of Weed and Seed<sup>4</sup>:
  - The Columbus Target Area, Weinland Park, is the southeast corner of the University District and is located between Ohio State University and downtown Columbus. One of the key accomplishments of this site has been the arrest and successful prosecution of over forty gang members that had controlled drug trafficking. In 1996, Attorney General Janet Reno visited the Weinland Park neighborhood and used it as an example of how communities can pull together to prevent youth violence.
- Columbus's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program provides prevention, intervention, and treatment services. Prevention training is provided for parents, professionals, college students and businesses. It uses the YES (You're Extra Special) Program to provide support and education for children of alcoholics/addicts. This program also provides outpatient treatment for alcohol/drug abuse with specialized services for women, pregnant women, African American men, cocaine/crack and marijuana abusers, and chronic relapsers.<sup>5</sup>

### **Crime and Drug-Related Crime<sup>6</sup>**

- As of March 2000, there were 479 aggravated assaults known to the Columbus police for the year.
- During 1999 there were a total of 2,046 aggravated assaults known to the police in Columbus.

### Index Crime Offenses Known to Police, Columbus, 1998-March 2000

Offense	March 2000 Total	Year 2000 Total	1999 Total	1998 Total
Murder/Manslaughter	16	29	113	109
Rape	44	151	650	668
Robbery	232	726	3,026	2,615
Aggravated Assault	164	479	2,046	2,040
Burglary	1,007	3,041	14,070	13,526
Larceny (Greater than \$500)	740	2,133	8,919	8,732
Larceny (Less than \$500)	2,223	5,992	25,740	27,606
Vehicle Theft	520	1,648	7,277	7,897
Other Assaults	1,875	4,561	19,306	20,372

- During 1999, the Narcotics Bureau of the Columbus Police Department charged 723 people for narcotics-related offenses. This was a 6% increase over the previous year.<sup>7</sup>

### Juveniles<sup>8</sup>

- In Franklin County 44% of high school students and 14% of middle school students indicated that they had used marijuana at least once in their lifetimes.
- The use of stimulants has generally increased in all grades from 1988 through 1997. An average of 6% of the Franklin County ninth through twelfth graders and 2% of the sixth through eighth graders report using stimulants at least once a month.
- Depressant use increased slightly in all grades from 1994 to 1997. 3% of the ninth through twelfth graders and 1% of the sixth through eighth graders reported using depressants monthly or more often.
- Cocaine use has been increasing slightly since 1991.
- The use of inhalants decreased in every grade surveyed from 1994 to 1997.
- From 1994 to 1997 hallucinogen use decreased in all grades except 11<sup>th</sup>. An average of 4% of the high school students and 1% of the middle school students reported using acid or other hallucinogens at least once a month.
- Heroin use shows a very slight increase over the last two reporting periods. Its usage rate has remained at below 1% in all grades.
- Regular use of steroids is up at all grade levels except 12<sup>th</sup>, but still averages only 1% or less.

### Enforcement

- Narcotics Bureau of Columbus Police Department<sup>9</sup>
  - Investigative "A" Unit: During 1999 this unit was assigned to two task forces. One of these task forces involved the investigation of a Jamaican marijuana smuggling operation. This investigation produced 14 Federal prosecutions, and additional Federal indictments have been served.
  - Investigative "B" Unit: This unit conducted numerous investigations and cleared 39 of 43 complaints that were assigned to them.
  - Investigative "C" Unit: In May of 1999, detectives from this unit followed a trail of a methamphetamine lab that had been supplying the Columbus area. This trail

- led to an apartment in Los Angeles where these detectives, along with Columbus and Los Angeles DEA officers, executed Federal arrest and search warrants.
- Investigative “D” Unit: During 1999 this unit worked on various investigations. In June, this unit targeted 13 different locations and executed 12 search warrants, resulting in the arrest of 40 narcotics traffickers.
  - IN/TAC Investigative Unit: This unit initiated 57 investigations and handled 40 citizen complaints during 1999. Routine investigations by this unit led to 82 arrests.
- Columbus has a total of 1,770 sworn police personnel.<sup>10</sup>

### **Trafficking and Seizures**

- The Airport Unit of the Narcotics Bureau monitored over 6,000 flights in 1999. As a result, 24 people were arrested producing the following seizures: 1,739 pounds of marijuana; 21 kilos of cocaine; 2 kilos of crack; and \$1,092,157 in cash.<sup>11</sup>
- 1999 Seizures for the Narcotics Bureau<sup>12</sup>
  - Investigative “A” Unit: 1,733 pounds of marijuana with a value of \$2,599,500; 14 kilos of cocaine (\$350,000 value); 309.4 grams of crack (\$30,940 value); 7 kilos of Ecstasy (\$28,000 value); 2.5 grams of crystal methamphetamine (\$15,000 value); 900 unit doses of Valium (\$3,600 value); 0.5 ounces of heroin (\$1,200 value); 16 guns; and \$380,249 in cash.
  - Investigative “B” Unit: 31.8 grams of marijuana; 227.9 grams of heroin; 402.9 grams of crack; 169.4 grams of cocaine; 22 unit doses of methamphetamine; and \$52,921.89 in cash.
  - Investigative “C” Unit: 9.0 ounces of crack; 153 ounces of cocaine; 31 ounces of methamphetamine; 55 pounds of marijuana; 29 firearms; 324 marijuana plants; and \$137,000 in cash. During this unit’s meth lab investigation which led them to Los Angeles, they seized 2.2 pounds of methamphetamine, 6.8 pounds of cocaine, 17 pounds of marijuana, made 15 arrests for conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine and cocaine, and seized over \$36,000 with seven guns and five motor vehicles.
  - Investigative “D” Unit: 15 guns; 8 ounces of crack (\$13,000 value); 10 ounces of cocaine (\$110,000 value); 30 pounds of marijuana (\$45,000 value); 10 unit doses of LSD; and 5 tablets of morphine.
  - IN/TAC Investigative Unit: As a result of routine investigations, this unit made the following seizures in 1999: 303 grams of crack/cocaine; 12 pounds of marijuana; 30 grams of LSD; and \$14,668 in cash. A long-term investigation for this unit resulted in the seizure of 300 doses of LSD, almost 30 grams of illicit mushrooms, and a moderately sized indoor marijuana growth operation.
- In 1997 Columbus Canine Unit teams seized \$240,633 in cash and various amounts of drugs worth an estimated street value of \$579,474.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>1</sup> City of Columbus Web site: <http://www.ci.columbus.oh.us/facts/population.html>

<sup>2</sup> City of Columbus Web site: <http://www.ci.columbus.oh.us>

<sup>3</sup> Drug-Free Communities Grantees:

<http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.fob/prevent/drugfree/1999/chart99.html>

<sup>4</sup> Executive Office of Weed and Seed: <http://www.weedseed.org>

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- <sup>5</sup> Columbus Health Department: <http://www.cmhhealth.org/hs/alcohol.html>
- <sup>6</sup> Columbus, Ohio Division of Police: <http://www.policestats.ci.columbus.oh.us/citymap.htm>
- <sup>7</sup> Columbus, Ohio Division of Police, *1999 Annual Report*:  
<http://www.police.ci.columbus.oh.us/PDF%20Files/99%20Annual%20Report.pdf>
- <sup>8</sup> Franklin County Safe and Drug-Free Schools Consortium, 1997-1998 Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, & Use Survey
- <sup>9</sup> Columbus, Ohio Division of Police, *1999 Annual Report*:  
<http://www.police.ci.columbus.oh.us/PDF%20Files/99%20Annual%20Report.pdf>
- <sup>10</sup> FBI, *Crime in the United States: Uniform Crime Reports, 1998*, October 1999:  
<http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/98cius.htm>
- <sup>11</sup> Columbus, Ohio Division of Police, *1999 Annual Report*:  
<http://www.police.ci.columbus.oh.us/PDF%20Files/99%20Annual%20Report.pdf>
- <sup>12</sup> Columbus, Ohio Division of Police, *1999 Annual Report*:  
<http://www.police.ci.columbus.oh.us/PDF%20Files/99%20Annual%20Report.pdf>
- <sup>13</sup> Columbus, Ohio Division of Police: <http://www.police.ci.columbus.oh.us>

This State Profile was prepared by the ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse. The Clearinghouse is funded by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy and is a component of the [National Criminal Justice Reference Service](#) For further information concerning the contents of this profile or other drug policy issues contact:

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